29: Spiro--201-202 (1947-48) 1950 Woleaians 1-2
116, 159, 786 Ifalik-1

"January 22, 1948. Yesterday Tarev came to the tent and discovered our calendar hanging on the tent pole. He turned it page by page, looking at both the numbers and the pictures, with an almost beatific smile on his face, and singing all the time. Later in the day, while we were gone, he took the calendar to his home. Some of the others saw him and made him return it. When they asked why he took it, he said that I was his father and therefore he had a right to take things from me.

Last night, however, I witnessed one of the weirdest things I have seen him do. Just as I was falling asleep, I heard [202] his falsetto--singing in front of our tent. He remained there for some time, alternately singing and stopping. Then he began to sing quite loudly and I decided to stop it and take him home. As I stepped out of the tent, I saw him, in the light of a full tropical moon, standing in front of the public meeting house. His hands were in the prayerful pose he often adopted in imitation, he said, of the padre, and he was singing to and bowing before the wooden phallus attached to the pillar. (18)

"18. This is quite a large carving of a penis, attached to the front pillar. Most of the people do not know what it represents, but the chiefs say it represents the penis of one of the earliest chiefs."

Intermittently, he would spit on it. He continued this for some time, alternately bowing to the phallus and spitting on it. This was a most impressive scene, and I stood watching it for a long time, until Tarev finally returned home."